

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for changing the service level for a subscriber in an electronic communication network, ~~characterised by the~~ comprising the steps of:

creating one or more voucher records (~~203,204, 205 ; 213,214~~) for one or more services, wherein each record comprises a voucher quantity (~~203b, 204b, 205b; 213b, 214b~~) of vouchers and an identification parameter for association with one or more services, and

associating said one or more records with a subscriber (~~201,211~~) for usage by said subscriber when utilizing said services.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ method according to claim 1, further comprising ~~characterised by the~~ steps of:

creating one or more rating records (~~304~~) in a rating structure for storage of a fee (~~304a~~) of units to be charged for service usage, further comprising a voucher type identification (~~304b~~) and a voucher quantity (~~304c~~), specifying the type and the quantity of vouchers corresponding to said fee (~~304a~~) for a particular service.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ method according to claim 1, further comprising ~~or 2, characterised by the~~ steps of:

creating one or more rating records (~~302~~) in a rating structure for storage of an amount or rate (~~302a~~) of units to be deducted to rate an interval and a charging interval (~~302b~~) to be rated, a voucher type identification (~~302c~~) and a voucher quantity (~~302d~~),

specifying the type and the quantity of vouchers corresponding to the rate for said interval.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ method according to claim 2, further comprising the ~~or 3, characterised by the~~ further steps of:

receiving an incoming charging request from a service element ~~(101,103, 105,106, 107,108, 111)~~ for service usage,

analysing said rating structure for said charging request,

if there is a condition in said rating structure for said request, finding a resulting rating record ~~(301,302)~~ for return to said request,

if said rating record ~~(301,302)~~ comprises a voucher type identification ~~(301b, 302e)~~ and if a record ~~(205 ;214)~~, having ~~[[a]]~~ an identification ~~(205a; 214a)~~ corresponding to said voucher type identification ~~(301b, 302e)~~ of said rating record ~~(301,302)~~, is available for said user,

decreasing the voucher quantity ~~(205b;214b)~~ of said voucher record ~~(205 ; 214)~~ with a value corresponding to the consumed service.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ method according to claim 3 ~~or 4~~, wherein said rating records have ~~(301a, 302a)~~ has a discount percentage value that fixes the maximum percentage of the service usage that is payable using the vouchers for a particular service that can be paid using the vouchers.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ method according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein said voucher records ~~(203,204, 205 ; 213,214)~~ is arranged in a list ~~(202,212)~~ associated with said subscriber ~~(201,211)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ method according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein said voucher records ~~(203,204, 205 ; 213, 214)~~ has an expiry date.

8. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to claim 5 ~~any of the claims 5-7~~, wherein, if a priority order for the usage of said voucher record (205;214), having a voucher type identification (205a; 214a) corresponding to said voucher type identification (301b, 302e) of said rating record (301,302), or another unit of payment (201b ; 211b) associated with said subscriber (201; 211) is available, the voucher record or unit of payment (201b;; 211b) is selected for decrease according to said priority order.

9. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to ~~any of the claim~~ 8, wherein said priority order is modified by the subscriber.

10. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein said quantity or unit is a number of SMS, EMS, MMS, volume of data, time of service usage or a monetary value.

11-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A system for changing the service level for a subscriber in an electronic communication network, ~~characterised in that said system comprising: is configured to perform the steps of any of the claims 1-10.~~

means for creating one or more voucher records for one or more services, wherein each record comprises a voucher quantity of vouchers and an identification parameter for association with one or more services, and

means for associating said one or more records with a subscriber for usage by said subscriber when utilizing said services.

14. (New) The system according to claim 13, further comprising:
means creating one or more rating records in a rating structure for storage of a fee of units to be charged for service usage,

further comprising a voucher type identification and a voucher quantity, specifying the type and the quantity of vouchers corresponding to said fee for a particular service.

15. (New) The system according to claim 13, further comprising:

creating one or more rating records in a rating structure for storage of an amount or rate of units to be deducted to rate an interval and a charging interval to be rated, a voucher type identification and a voucher quantity, specifying the type and the quantity of vouchers corresponding to the rate for said interval.

16. (New) The system according to claim 14, further comprising:

means for receiving an incoming charging request from a service element for service usage,

means for analyzing said rating structure for said charging request,

if there is a condition in said rating structure for said request, finding a resulting rating record for return to said request,

if said rating record comprises a voucher type identification and if a record, having an identification corresponding to said voucher type identification of said rating record, is available for said user, and

means for decreasing the voucher quantity of said voucher record with a value corresponding to the consumed service.

17. (New) The system according to claim 15, wherein said rating records have a discount percentage value that fixes the maximum percentage of the service usage that is payable using the vouchers for a particular service that can be paid using the vouchers.

18. (New) The system according to claim 13, wherein said voucher records are arranged in a list associated with said subscriber.

19. (New) The system according to claim 13, wherein said voucher records have an expiry date.

20. (New) The system according to claim 17, wherein, if a priority order for the usage of said voucher record, having a voucher type identification corresponding to said voucher type identification of said rating record, or another unit of payment associated with said subscriber is available, the voucher record or unit of payment is selected for decrease according to said priority order.

21. (New) The system according to claim 19, wherein said priority order is modified by the subscriber.

22. (New) The system according to claim 13, wherein said quantity or unit is a number of SMS, EMS, MMS, volume of data, time of service usage or a monetary value.